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Photocatalytic Reaction of Water with Carbon over Platinized Titania

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S. Sato and J. M. White Prepared for Publication

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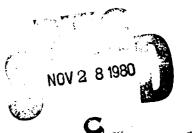
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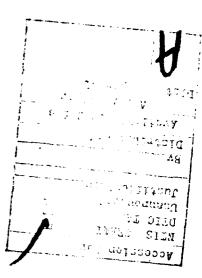
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contact between the catalyst and carbon. The reaction is zero Then the reaction is carried out in liquid H,0, the oxidation declines due to the accumulation of Hg and the loss of a good in the water-gas shift and the water decomposition reactions The reaction of gas phase water with active carbon over illuminated, platinized TiO2 (analake pender is studied at reaction rate shows an onset a little shorter than observed 5 kcal/mole. The qualitative wavelength dependence of the The products are Hg. CO2 and order in  ${\bf H_2}{\bf 0}$  pressure and the activation energy is about over the same catalyst. At room temperature the quantum efficiency is about 2% at the beginning of the reaction. As the reading property, the rat of carbon is inhibited and  $O_2$  as well as  $H_2$  evolves. room temperature and 60°C. stall amount of O2.

# I. Introduction,

The direct conversion of light energy into chemical energy, water photolysis but rather arose from the photodecomposition illuminated TiO $_2$  or Fe $_2$ O $_3$  doped TiO $_2$  but Van Damme and Hall $^5$ O platimized TiO $_2$  in IN  $m H_2SO_4$  solution is illumisated; however, i.e. the storage of light energy, has recently received much their result has received little attention. Schrauzer and of the most suitable systems for this purpose and has been energy. The photocatalytic decomposition of water is one concluded that the formation of H2 was not the result of reported the decomposition of water when a suspension of attention from the viewpoint of the utilization of solar achieved in photoelectrochemical (PEC) colls 1) though Guthar claimed the decomposition of adsorbed water over beton energy nitalists. Pulator and Engleriation the efficiency is still too low to use or  $|\cos i y|^{2}$ . Some attempts have been made to photolyme ator asing of hydroxyl groups typically found on  $TiO_2^{(6)}$ .

In connection with the photolysis of water, Hemminger et al.  $^{7}$ ) have reported the reduction of  ${\rm CO}_2$  by gas phase water to CH, over an illuminated SrTiO $_3$  crystal in contact with a Pt foll, but it is not clear that this was catalytic. Inoue et al.  $^{8}$ ) have observed the formation of formic acid



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<sup>.</sup>Supported in part by the Office of Naval Research.

were illuminated under flowing CO<sub>2</sub>. In both experiments, however, O<sub>2</sub> was not detected in the products even though it plays a central role in their mechanistic proposals.

We have recently found that TiO<sub>2</sub> itself has no activity for the photolysis of gas or liquid phase water but illuminated, platinized TiO<sub>2</sub> (Pt/TiO<sub>2</sub>) does.<sup>9)</sup> The continuous photodecomposition of gas phase water does not take place, apparently because the thermal back reaction (H<sub>2</sub> + ½O<sub>2</sub> + H<sub>2</sub>O) over Pt overwhelms the photoprocess<sup>10</sup>). Continuous H<sub>2</sub> production from gas phase water is attainable when the oxygen formed reacts with CO<sup>10</sup>), hydrocarbons<sup>11</sup>), active carbon<sup>11</sup> and Sakata<sup>13,14</sup>, who employed a mixture of TiO<sub>2</sub>, RuO<sub>2</sub> and Sakata<sup>13,14</sup>, who employed a mixture of TiO<sub>2</sub>, RuO<sub>2</sub> and CO are the main products when the irradiated mixture is suspended in liquid water<sup>14</sup> while mainly H<sub>2</sub> and CO<sub>2</sub> are produced in the gas phase reaction<sup>13</sup>).

Heterogeneous catalysis systems for water photolysis have disadvantages as compared to PEC cells; the products (H<sub>2</sub> and O<sub>2</sub>) are not separated so that the apparent efficiency becomes lower as the products accumulate due to the back reaction (H<sub>2</sub> +  $\frac{1}{2}$ O<sub>2</sub> + H<sub>2</sub>O) on the catalyst and the products must be separated before storage. However,

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a heterogeneous catalysis system is less expensive to construct and simpler to use and its disadvantages would be partially overcome by selecting a reaction such as

 $\exists$ 

 $\Delta G^{O} = 7.5 \text{ kcal/mole}$ 

 $H_2^{O(g)} + \frac{1}{2}C(s) + H_2 + \frac{1}{2}CO_2$ 

decomposition (57 kcal/mole). This reaction is related to another topic of current interest -the gasification of the earth's large reserves of coal. We have liveady studied the photocatalytic reaction of lignite with respirate water over Pt/TiO<sub>2</sub><sup>12</sup>. The reaction rate in the system, however, declined so fast, probably due to impurities in the lignite,

that the properties of this system could not be reasonably

have studied in detail the reaction of active carbon with

gas and liquid phase water over illuminated  $extsf{Pt/TiO}_2$ 

characterized using our apparatus. For this reason we

2 hrs. After setting the reaction cell temperature with a illuminating the sample with a 200W high pressure Hg lamp water bath, water wapor was introduced from a reservoir of Platinized TiO $_2$  (-2 wt2Pt) was prepared by the photodecomthat was filtered through a quartz cell filled with  ${
m NiSO}_4$ Matheson-Coleman-Bell) (180 ml volume) and the sample was outgassed at 2000C for adequate intervals and, after passage through a cold trap solution to remove heat. The gas mixture was sampled at the flat bottom of a quartz reaction cell. The cell was position of hexachloroplatinic acid 15). The BET surface physically mixed and the mixture was spread uniformly on for 6 hrs. at 700°C to enhance photocatalytic activity. liquid water, which had been outgassed several times at dry ice temperature. The reaction was then started by (U.S. Biochemical Co., 0.05g) and Pt/TiO2 (0.2g) were at about-110°C to remove  $\mathrm{H_2O}$ , was analyzed by a mass area of Pt/TiO2 was about 11 m2/g. Active charcoal then connected to an evacuable, circulation system TiO2 powder (anatase,/ spectrometer (CEC 21-614)

Hydrogen, oxygen and  $^{13}\mathrm{CO}$  (isotopic purity 90%)^16) were used after passing them through a liquid  $\mathrm{N}_2$  trap.

The second secon

### III, Results

Figure 1 shows the evolution of  ${\rm H_2}$  and  ${\rm CO_2}$  when the sample restored by this procedure. Therefore, the observed decrease formation became slower with time in every run; for example, returned to the reaction cell. The reaction rate was fully in the rate was not due to intrinsic activity loss but proand in each the reaction was repeated after evacuating the cantly lower and was not restored by outgassing the sample at  $200^{\rm O}$ C. The sample was taken out after the  $\rm H_2$  formation The initial rate of  $H_2$  formation, however, was reproduced estimated to be 5 kcal/mole. This rate was reproduced in products detected. Five repetitions are shown in Fig. 1 in the first run the H<sub>2</sub> formation rate dropped from 0.6 (1.8 x 10<sup>-4</sup> mole/hr.) torr/hr/initially to 0.4 torr/hr after 2 hr-illumination. temperature dependence. The  ${
m H_2}$  formation rate increased for run 5, the initial rate of  $H_2$  formation was signifireaction system in the dark for 15 min. at the reaction the fourth run. Returning the cell to room temperature rate had dropped to 0.2 torr/hr, physically remixed and at room temperature was illuminated by UV light. Small in the second and third runs. During the third run the by a factor of 2.5 from which the activation energy is amounts of  $\theta_2$  and  $\text{CH}_4$  (<10<sup>-2</sup> torr) were the only other temperature to check reproducibility. Both  $\mathrm{H_2}$  and  $\mathrm{CO_2}$ reaction temperature was raised to 60°C to measure the

bably due to a decrease in the contact area between the carbon particles and the oxidation sites of the catalyst.

By stoichiometry (C +  $2H_2O$  +  $2H_2$  +  $CO_2$ ) the  $H_2/CO_2$  ratio should be 2, but according to Fig. 2 it was almost always larger for the five runs of Fig. 1. The ratio in the initial stage of the first run, is less than 2, due to  $CO_2$  description from the catalyst as observed previously 10). The  $H_2/CO_2$  ratio reached 2.9 in the second run and then deviceased slightly. When the reaction temperature was raised to  $60^{O}$  C, the ratio approached the stoichiometric value but again increased in the room-temperature reaction (the fifth run). Although the ratio decreased in subsequent room temperature runs (not shown), the stoichiometric ratio was not attained. The formation of  $O_2$  can not account for this deviation of the  $H_2/CO_2$  ratio from the solichiometric ratio ratio because it is formed in such small amounts (less than  $10^{-2}$  torr).

The relative excess of  $H_2$  probably arises because some oxygenated reaction intermediates accumulate on the sample surface. Support for this comes from the fact that an appreciable amount of  ${\rm CO}_2$  described when the sample was heated to  $200^{\circ}$  C after the reaction. During heating,  ${\rm CO}_2$  describin maximize, between room temperature and  $80^{\circ}$  C, and again increased at temperatures above  $120^{\circ}$ C. The  ${\rm CO}_2$  describion

3.6

above 120°C may be the result of the decomposition of reaction intermediates such as carboxyl or the reaction of adsorbed oxygen with carbon. The desorption of  $\rm H_2$  was also observed but in amounts much less than  $\rm CO_2$ .

dark period where the reaction proceeded further, the ratio  ${
m H}_2$  is thought to arise mainly by its reaction with adsorbed the dark, the H<sub>2</sub> pressure decrease was relatively slow and that, in the dark, the  ${
m H_2/CO_2}$  ratio would attain the stoivery little  $m H_2$  was noted in subsequent thermal desorption.  ${
m H_2}$  may also be involved but only to a small extent since oxygen species located on  ${\rm TiO}_2$  and carbon. Adsorption of chlometric value under conditions where H<sub>2</sub> adsorption can became faster with increased  $H_{\rm Z}$  pressure. The leas of approached 2 but would have fallen slightly below it had be neglected. At 60°C the dark loss of hydrogen is not during the reaction at room temperature. The sample was fell below 2 in the first dark period (Fig. 3) probably As a result of the consumption of  $\mathrm{H_2}$ , the  $\mathrm{H_2/CO_2}$  ratio because of some  $H_2$  adsorption. However, in the second the Ho pressure, when the UV-illumination was stopped outgassed at 200°C prior to this experiment to remove the dark period been extended. These results suggest adsorbed species accumulated in the preceding runs. As shown in Fig. 3, we observed a

as pronounced as at room temperature.

The formation of O<sub>2</sub> (Fig. 3) during the reaction is timy but thought to be important because it indicates that the photodecomposition of H<sub>2</sub>O may play an important role in the present system. The amount of O<sub>2</sub> formed tends to increase with repetition of the reaction. Returning to Fig. 1, the maximum pressure of O<sub>2</sub> was lxlo<sup>-3</sup> torr in the first run and it increased to 1.3xlo<sup>-3</sup> and 2.4xlo<sup>-3</sup> torr in the reaction temperature was raised to 60<sup>o</sup> C the O<sub>2</sub> pressure dropped quickly to 8xlo<sup>-4</sup> torr and remained there during the reaction. In the fifth run carried out at room temperature the O<sub>2</sub> pressure was 2.6xlo<sup>-3</sup> torr. Thus the O<sub>2</sub> pressure increases with repetitions but never exceeds lx;0<sup>-2</sup> torr. When the light is turned off, O<sub>2</sub> disappears promptly from the gas phase as shown in Fig. 3.

In this connection the reactivity of gas phase  $O_2$  was examined in the absence of  $H_2O$  and under illumination. The pressure decrease of  $O_2$  was very slow in the dark and increased schewhat upon illumination, but no appreciable amount of  $CO_2$  was formed (see Fig. 4). After introducing  $H_2O$  into the system, the  $O_2$  pressure fell rather sharply to below  $10^{-2}$  torr and  $CO_2$  appeared in the gas phase. This result shows that gas phase  $O_2$  alone is much less active for the exidation of carbon than exygen species produced

by the photodecomposition of  $\rm H_2O$ . The rapid decrease in the O<sub>2</sub> pressure after introducing  $\rm H_2O$  is probably due to its reaction with  $\rm H_2$  formed in the reaction of  $\rm H_2O$  with carbon.

The formation of CH<sub>4</sub> was less than observed previously in the reaction of lignite with  $\rm H_2O^{12}$ ). It accumulated to a pressure of 6x10<sup>-4</sup> torr during the first run with a fresh catalyst but, after a few hours of illumination, its formation rate dropped to zero.

in Fig. 5, the water-gas shift reaction,  $^{13}$ CO +  $_{12}$ O =  $^{13}$ CO<sub>2</sub> +  $_{12}$ . CO pressure fell to about  $1 \times 10^{-2}$  torr,  $H_2$  formation accelerated, beginning of this reaction, CO2 exceeded H2 probably became the O, pressure abruptly increased and then slowly decreased to expected values. Similar phenomena have been observed in examined using 13C0 to discriminate the products. As shown the photoassisted water-gas shift reaction over  $Pt/TiO_2^{-10}$ . reaction products, adsorbed CO is one of the test probable intermediates of the present reaction. It thus connection the addition of CO gave rise to the description of  ${\rm CO}_2$  that had accumulated on the sample in previous runs. After the indicating the inhibitory effect of CO. At the same time, the effect of the presence of CO on the reaction rate was but  $H_2$  formation was considerably suppressed as compared took place simultaneously with the oxidation of carbon Although no appreciable CO was observed in the to that observed in the absence of CO. At the

It is still not clear from this result whether adsorbed CO is an intermediate in the carbon/water reaction. However, it is worth noting that adsorbed CO formed in oxidizing carbon would be bound to a carbon particle and would not migrate to a Pt surface where CO inhibits the  $H_2$  evc ution<sup>10</sup>).

was cooled to  $0^{\rm O}$  C to reduce the  ${\rm H}_2{\rm O}$  pressure. After 50 min, of the trap to room temperature, and at  $90~\mathrm{min}$ , the  $\mathrm{H}_2\mathrm{O}$  pressure the beginning but approached values around 2 as the reaction proceeded. Therefore, the slow  ${\rm CO}_2$  formation shown in Fig. the products. In this experiment,  ${\rm H_2O}$  was first introduced at about 24 torr and then a part of the circulation system reducing it to 5 torr at 90 min. The  ${\rm CO}_2$  formation became Then the pressure of H<sub>2</sub>O was reduced to about 5 torr was again reduced. The H<sub>2</sub> formation was not affected by 6 probably arises from increased  $\omega_2$  adsorption at lower slower when H2O pressure was reduced; an increase in the throughout the same run, the  ${\rm H_2/CO_2}$  ratio exceeded 3 at increased to 24 torr though this effect is not sharp in Fig. 6. When the  ${
m H}_2{
m O}$  pressure was kept at about 5 torr Figure 6 shows the effect of H2O pressure on illumination the condensed  $H_0 O$  was released by warming increasing H2O pressure but accelerated slightly after  $\cos_2$  pressure was always observed when  $\mathrm{H_2^0}$  pressure was a slight increase in the H2 formation rate was usually observed.

 $m H_2^{O}$  pressures. The  $O_2$  pressure becomes lower when  $H_2^{O}$  pressure is reduced, suggesting that an adsorbed  $H_2^{O}$  layer on Pt retards the reaction of  $H_2$  with  $O_2$ .

The wavelength dependence of the reaction rate was qualitatively measured using three cut-off filters (Fig. 7). A commercial UV cut-off filter (415 nm cut-off) and a Plexiglass filter (~380 nm cut-off) completely eliminated H<sub>2</sub> formation, while a Pyrex glass filter (~275 nm cut-off) reduced its rate to about two thirds of that found with no filter. This measurement includes some experimental error because the reaction rate declines slowly even in the same run.

In another set of experiments, liquid  $\rm H_2O$  was used instead of gas phase  $\rm H_2O$ . Prior to the reaction,  $\rm H_2O$  was transferred from the storage vessel to the reaction cell by cooling the latter to  $\rm O^0$  C so that the sample became covered with liquid  $\rm H_2O$  (~0.3 ml). This sample wisher that illuminated after warming the cell up to room temperature. The results are shown in Fig. 8. The formation of  $\rm H_2$  was much slower than in the reaction with gas phase  $\rm H_2O$ , and exceeded  $\rm CO_2$ , indicating that the photodecomposition of  $\rm H_2O$  dominates the reaction. The relatively rapid  $\rm CO_2$  formation at the beginning is probably just the desorption of  $\rm CO_2$  accumulated in the previous runs,

formation became faster after 1 hr illumination for reasons which are not clear. We speculate that local warming by the UV light source may have caused some of the water to evaporate and allowed the rate to increase because the H<sub>2</sub> and O<sub>2</sub> could escape more readily to the gas phase. No CO was detected in this reaction.

The reason why the oxidation of carbon is inhibited in liquid  $\rm H_2O$  is not well understood. The liquid  $\rm H_2O$  layer may retard the migration of adsorbed oxygen or hydroxyl radicals formed on  $\rm TiO_2$  to the carbon surface and as a result these species would become  $\rm O_2$  before oxidizing carbon.

## IV. Discussion

between usual photoassisted reactions and the photocatalytic decomposition of water is that in the former casaly exidation (or OHT, by holes and the reduction of protons by electrons In addition to possessing both oxygen by holes while in the latter the oxidation of water oxidation and reduction capabilities a good photocatalyst TiO2 is a typical photocatalyst for the oxidation on illuminated TiO2 at room temperature. The difference generated by band gap radiation are considered to drive reaction of active carbon with water did not take place In the photolysis of water, however, of CO or hydrocarbons in which the holes and electrons Separation of photo-generated hole-electron pairs over TiO, shows no /activity9) and in the present study the reactions occur presumably owing to the activation of for water decomposition must provide for an efficient take place simultaneously. catalyti the reactions, 17) the catalyst.

Semiconductors such as  $TiO_2$  usually show much less activity for hydrogenation reactions than metal catalysts and our duped  $TiO_2$  showed no activity for the  $H_2$ - $D_2$  exchange reaction at room temperature.  $^{18}$ ) If  $TiO_2$  is used as a cathode in water electrolysis, a large overvoltage would

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be necessary to evolve  $\rm H_2$ . It is therefore reasonably assumed that  $\rm TiO_2$  does not effectively catalyze the  $\rm H_2$  evolution reaction in the water photolysis.

when Pt is contact with TiO<sub>2</sub>, pt would function as a cathode at which H<sub>2</sub> is easily evolved. In addition, Pt would induce bending of both conduction and valence bands at TiO<sub>2</sub> surfaces, resulting in the efficient separation of hole-electron pairs. Since TiO<sub>2</sub> operates as an anode in PEC cells, 1) a combined system of Pt and TiO<sub>2</sub> thus has the features required for mater photolysis. A similar system has been reported by Nozix<sup>19</sup>, who has shown that semiconductors (GaP and --CdS single-crystals) in contact with a Pt plate (Schottky-type photochemical digde) operate like their PEC cells.

There is, however, a problem in view of the fact that Pt-1:02 (usually rutile) PEC cells require some exicrnal electrical potential to decompose water 1,20) whereas our systems using Pt/TiO2 involve no external potential. The requirement of an anodic bias in Pt-TiO2 PEC cell is explained in terms of the energy-band diagram for TiO2 under illumination (see Fig. 9). In most experiments the flat-band potential (electron Fermi level) of TiO2 is observed at a position slightly higher than the H<sup>+</sup>/H<sub>2</sub> redox potential and hence the photogenerated electrons are unable to transfer to the H<sup>+</sup>/H<sub>2</sub> level<sup>20</sup>). There is however another experimental result which shows the flat-band potential

to be lower than the  $\mathrm{H}^+/\mathrm{H}_2$  potential.  $^{21}$  It seems to us that the flat-band potential of anatase may be positioned lower than the  $\mathrm{H}^+/\mathrm{H}_2$  potential. Moreover, the potential necessary for the H<sub>2</sub> evolution in our systems should be lower than the standard  $\mathrm{H}^+/\mathrm{H}_2$  potential because the reactions are carried out under very low pressure (less than 0.04 atm).

In our systems involving gas phase  $\mathrm{H}_{9}0$ , the photodecomposition is probably analogous to those used to describe FEC cells, 10-12) feature of the illuminated Pt/TiO $_2$ , gas phase  $\mathrm{H}_2^{\rm O}$  mystom is its portant intermediate in the photo-oxidation of CO and hydrocarof  ${\rm H}_2{\rm O}$  may be the major process over  ${\rm Pt/TiG}_9$  and the mechanism strong oxidation power that is capable of oxidizing even solid of TiO $_2$  is positioned far higher than the  $m H_2G/O_2$  potential  $m ^{3.5}$  , which migrated there from the  ${\rm TiO}_2$  surface. A characteristic power may be attributed to the fact that the hole Fermi level which is a strong oxidizing agent and is thought to be an im-(see Fig. 9) Another possibility is the formation of O (a) bons over semiconductors,17) However, the result of Fig. 4 shows that  $\theta_2$  is much less active for carbon photo-oxidation carbon as shown in the present experiments. This oxidation That is, the photogenerated holes oxidize  $E_20$  at the  ${\rm Ti0}_2$ surface while the electrons drift to Pt and reduce protons than  $H_9O$  even though O-(a) would be formed from  $O_2$ .

Although the mechanism of the oxidation of active carbon is not clear, we assume it involves intermediates similar to

electrodes, where hydroxyl, carbonyl and 'oxyl groups are above discussion one mechanism describing the present system those involved in the electrochemical oxid- 'on of graphite typical surface compounds proposed, 22) On the basis of the can be written as:

$$H_2^0 + h^+ T_1^0 Q_2 + OH + H^+$$
 (2)

2.CH 
$$T_1^{10}$$
2  $H_2^{0}$ 0 +  $O(a)$  (3)

$$20(a)$$
  $T_1^{\dagger}0_2$   $0_2$  (4)

$$H^{+} \leftarrow P^{T} H(a)$$
 (5)

$$23(a) + 0(a)$$
  $Pi, TiO_2$   $H_2O$  (7)

$$H(a) + .0H P_{t,}T^{10}2 H_{2}^{0}$$
 (8)

According to this mechanism, the surface of carbon would be covered with various oxides of carbon and adsorbed oxygen during

 ${
m H_2}$  and  ${
m CO_2}$ , such as HCOOH or HCHO, might be formed on the surface out would not appear at detectable levels in the gas phase since 60°C the coverage of these surface species would be lower than at room temperature since they would be decomposed or oxidized effectively as the temperature is raised. Products other than ratio in gas phase would exceed the stoichiometric ratio. At the reaction at room temperature. Consequently the  $_{
m H_2}/{
m CO}_2$ they would be rapidly oxidized. In Pt-TiO $_2$  PEC cells, the water photolysis can be achieved with-Farcogue $^{24}$ ), on the other hand, have resorted that the electrical canily lower when the Pt anode is in contact with coal. Incoe in basic solution and the Pt counterelectron in addic solution potential necessary for the water electrolysis becomes signifiof water. If this supposition is correct it should be possible  ${
m Pt/TiO}_2$ ,  ${
m H}_2{
m O}$  system may give a chemical blus for the phototysis than the  $\mathrm{H}^{ullet}/\mathrm{H}_2$  potential for the photocatalytic production of results lead us to suppose that the addition of carbon to the out an external electrical bias by  $\operatorname{placin}_R$   $(\operatorname{id}_{\mathbb{C}^n}(T))_2$  electrode to utilize semiconductors with higher flat-band potentials (a salt bridge connects the solutions). 33) Coughlin and H2 from H2O using carbon as a chemical bias reagent.

of CO when a mixture of  ${\rm TiO}_2$ ,  ${\rm RuO}_2$  and active carbon is illuminated Kawai and Sakata $^{13}$ ) have observed  $^{\rm H}_2$ , CO $_2$  and a small unount CO and H2 are the major products when the mixture is immersed in the presence of gas phase  $H_2O$ . They have also found that

for such in our systems. Their  ${
m RuO}_2/{
m TiO}_2$  system produced about of H2 was produced during 2 hr-illumination by a 200 W Hg lamp and Pt) mixed with  $TiO_2$  and carbon and found that the initial  $4x10^{-6}$  mole of  $\mathrm{H}_2$  during 5 hr-illumination by a 500 W Hg lamp have tested the activities of several kinds of metals (Ru, Ni of metals, Pt is not easily oxidized and we find no evidence stronger oxidative force as compared to the  $\mathrm{RuO}_2/\mathrm{TIO}_2$  system system. Although they ascribed this effect to the oxidation at room temperature while in our  $\mathrm{Pt/TiO_2}$  system,  $9\mathrm{x10^{-6}}$  mole In liquid H,O and illuminated. 14) In our system however, no This difference between these systems is of interest but not and water decomposition dominated the liquid phase reaction. H<sub>2</sub> formation is 7-15 times faster for Pt than the RuO<sub>2</sub>/TiO<sub>2</sub> CO was detected in either the gas or liquid phase reactions This suggests that the  $Pt/TiO_2$  system has higher activity. understood. It seems to us that the  $\operatorname{Pt/TiO}_2$  system has a and thus oxidizes carbon completely. Kawai and Sakata<sup>13)</sup>

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The  $\rm H_2/CO_2$  ratio in Kawai and Sakata's experiment<sup>13)</sup> was 1-i.5, much less than the stoichiometric ratio, suggesting the reduction of RuO<sub>2</sub>. In preliminary experiments, we find some evidence that Ni or Co mixed with TiO<sub>2</sub> is oxidized in the presence of  $\rm H_2O$  and UV-irradiation while the oxides of metals such as Pt and Rh are reduced under the same experimental conditions. <sup>18)</sup>

The kinetics of the present reaction are similar to those of the photoassisted water-gas shift reaction over  $Pt/Tio_2$ . 10) The almost zero order dependence of the rate on  $H_2O$  pressure is the same as in the latter and the activation energy (-5 kcal/mole) is close to 7.5 kcal/mole of the latter. As for the wavelength dependence, the present reaction shows a little shorter onset than the shift reaction, but the reason is not clear.

The decline of the  $\rm H_2$  formation rate in a given run is probably due to the accumulation of  $\rm H_2$  which competes with carbon for oxygen species. The long-term decline arises from the loss of a good contact between the catalyst and subsessince the initial reaction rate can be reproduced by remaxing the

The formation of  $O_2$  increases with time but, in any run, its maximum amount is less than observed in the reaction with lightle.  $^{12}$  Aithough the reaction of  $\rm H_2$  with  $O_2$  occurs rapidly on a clean  $\rm Pt/TiO_2$  even in the presence of mas phase  $\rm H_2C^{(1)}$ , Colinhibits this reaction to some extent as observed in the watergas shift reaction  $\rm H_2$ . Since CO was not detected in the asphase of the present reaction, its inhibitory effect is not established. The result of Fig. 6 shows that the decrease in the amount of adsorbed  $\rm H_2O$  on the sample results in decrease in the  $\rm O_2$  pressure. Therefore, it is reasonable to assume that since active carbon adsorbs a large amount of  $\rm H_2O$ , the  $\rm H_2O$  layer

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on the Pt that is in contact with carbon is thicker than in the absence of carbon. When the  $\rm H_2O$  layer is thick,  $\rm O_2$  does not react readily with  $\rm H_2$ . As the contact area between the catalyst and carbon decreases with the consumption of carbon, oxygen species would be required to migrate longer distances to react with carbon and consequently they would have an increasing chance to desorb as  $\rm O_2$ .

Assuming, as an upper limit, a flux of  $10^{17}$  photons/sec<sup>25</sup> with grader energy/than the band gap ener<sub>by</sub> of TiO<sub>2</sub> (~3.0 eV), the quantum yield of the H<sub>2</sub> production is about 2% at the beginning of the reaction at room temperature and increases with increasing temperature.

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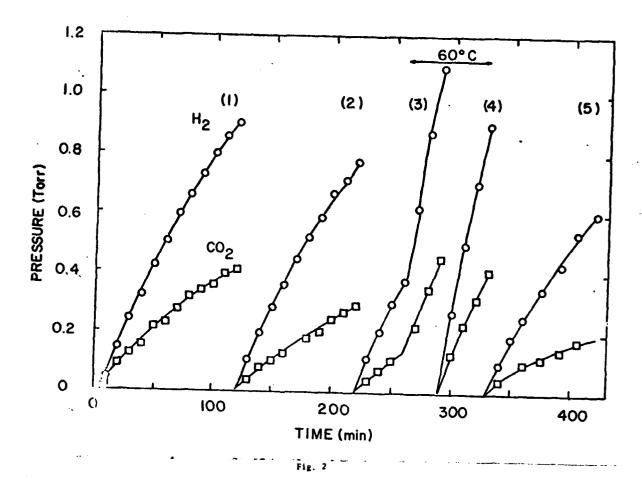
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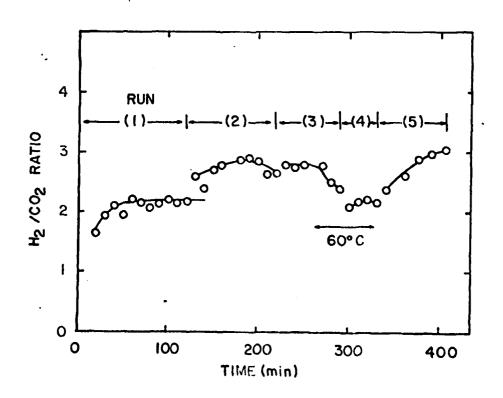
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- Fig. 1 Evolution of  $\rm H_2$  and  $\rm CO_2$  when a mixture of active carbon and  $\rm Pt/TiO_2$  catalyst is illuminated at room temperature in the presence of gas phase  $\rm H_2O$ . The reaction was repeated after evacuating the system briefly.
- Fig. 2 Change of  ${\rm H_2/CO_2}$  ratio during the reaction of active carbon with gas phase  ${\rm H_2O}$  (from Fig. 1).
- Fig. 3 Pressure changes of  ${\rm H_2}$ ,  ${\rm CO_2}$  and  ${\rm O_2}$  when IV illumination is turned off during the reaction.
- Fig. 4 Change of  $\theta_2$  pressure in the absence of gas phase  $\rm H_2O$  over the illuminated active carbon-Pt/Ti $\theta_2$  mixture. H<sub>2</sub>O (-24 form) was introduced at 40 min.
- Fig. 5 Effect of CO on the reaction rate.
- Fig. 6 Dependence of the reaction rate on  $\mathrm{H}_2\mathrm{O}$  pressure.
- Fig. 7 Effects of cut-off filters on the rate of H<sub>2</sub> formation. Fig. 8 Evolution of H<sub>2</sub>,  $O_2$  and  $O_2$  when the sample is innersed

in liquid H2O and illuminated.

Fig. 9 Schematic energy level diagrams for TiO<sub>2</sub>-Pt PEC cell in the dark and under illumination: CP, conduction band; VB, valence band; E<sub>f</sub>, Fermi level; E<sub>fn</sub>, electron Fermi level; Level; E<sub>fn</sub>, hole Fermi level.





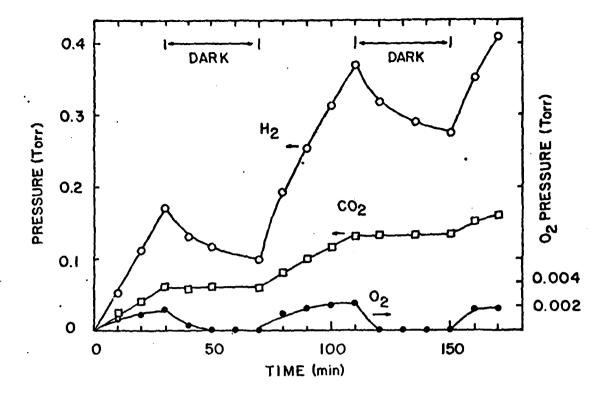
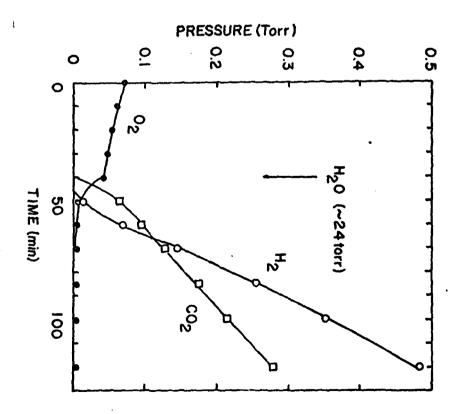
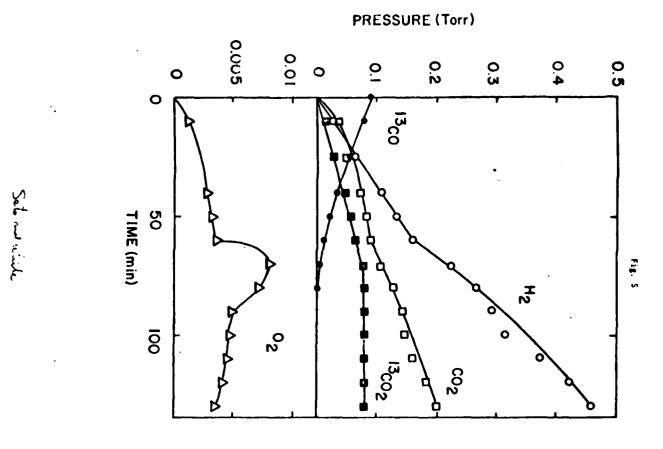
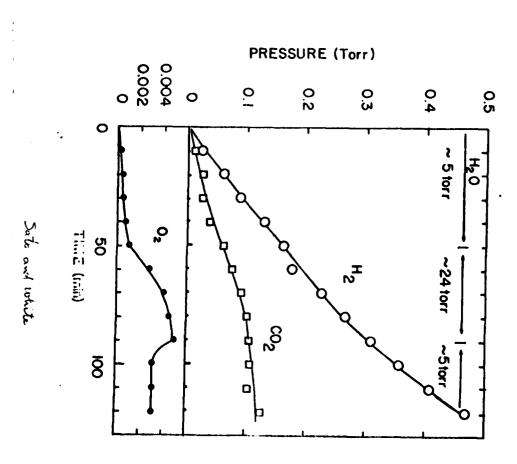


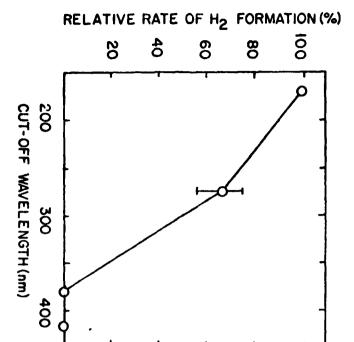
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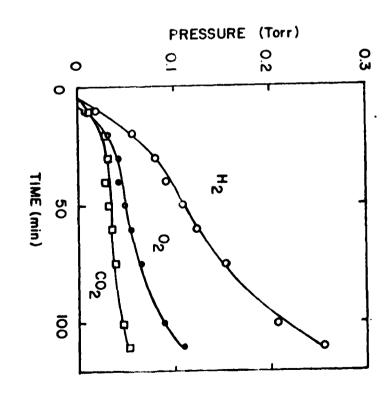


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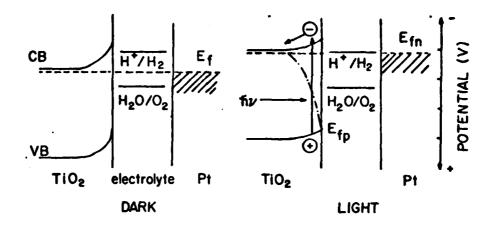




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